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Recommended Citation

"University of Dayton Welcomes Largest First-Year Class Since 1969, Seniors to Talk About Drinking, New Students Perform Service" (2003). *News Releases*. 9822.
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Aug. 21, 2003
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NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON WELCOMES LARGEST FIRST-YEAR CLASS SINCE 1969, SENIORS TO TALK ABOUT DRINKING, NEW STUDENTS PERFORM SERVICE

Approximately 1,882 first-year students are expected to start classes at the University of Dayton on Tuesday, Aug. 25. It is the largest first-year class since 1969 and the first to be issued laptop computers as part of a new requirement.

The University of Dayton will offer a variety of ways for new students to get acclimated to college life, with new orientation activities including a day of community service and peer-to-peer sessions on drinking. Here's a snapshot of the schedule. For any questions, please call the Orientation Center at 229-2229. It's located in 227 Gosiger Hall.

Friday, Aug. 22: Pre-Orientation Day of Service

About 125 first-year students signed up for UD's first Day of Service, but only 85 could be accommodated at 10 service sites around Dayton. All projects run from **1 to 4 p.m.** Students will host a back-to-school party at the Dakota Center, 33 Barnett St.; clean out animal pens at the Learning Tree Farm, 3376 S. Union Rd; play bingo at The Other Place, 816 S. Patterson Blvd.; work with inner-city children at TeenWorks, 925 N. Main St.; and do some weeding at the Marianist Environmental Education Center, 4435 E. Patterson Rd. Contact: Andrea Stiles, coordinator for community outreach in UD's Center for Social Concern, (937) 229-2516.

Saturday, Aug. 23: The Big Move

Move-in: More than 100 upperclass students clad in blue "Ask Me" shirts will help new students move into their residence hall. They'll be driving golf carts, carting boxes from parking lots and answering lots of questions. Move-in is scheduled from **8 a.m. until 3 p.m.** Contact Jolly Janson, director of educational and special programs, at 229-2229.

Laptop computer pick-up: Students can pick up their laptop computers between **9 a.m. and 7 p.m.** on the ground floor of O'Reilly Hall.

An intro to the classroom: Professors asked all incoming students — and any interested parents — to read Cass R. Sustein's *Boston Review* article, "The Daily We," one of the required readings in the humanities base of the general education curriculum. About 100 parents will meet with humanities faculty to talk about the reading and learn more about UD's curriculum that requires all first-year students to read common books in English, history, philosophy and religious studies. Parents and students will meet in the lobby of the Jesse Philips Humanities Center for classroom sessions from **4 to 5 p.m.**

Party in the Plaza: Students will enjoy free pizza and live music from **9 to 11 p.m.** in the Humanities Center plaza.

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Sunday, Aug. 24: Presidential Welcome

President's Address and Welcome Mass: University of Dayton President Daniel J. Curran will welcome new students and offer an address at 10 a.m. in UD Arena. The Mass starts at 10:30 a.m.

"The Real Deal on Drinking at UD": Four seniors will talk to incoming students about high-risk drinking, alcohol poisoning and other issues in this new, mandatory session. "We are emphasizing to them that many incoming students from last year chose not to drink at all (21 percent), and, of those who did choose to drink, the majority did so moderately," said Scott Markland, coordinator of alcohol and drug abuse prevention at the University of Dayton. The session takes place from **4:30 to 5:30 p.m.** in the main meeting room in the Virginia W. Kettering Residence Hall. Contact: Scott Markland, coordinator of alcohol and drug abuse prevention, at (937) 229-2229.

Monday, Aug. 25: The Academic Challenge and the Real Deal on Drinking

New Student Convocation: Faculty in academic regalia will welcome new students in a formal convocation from **8:45 to 10 a.m.** in the Thomas J. Frericks Center. Steven Dandaneau, associate professor of sociology, and Jayne Robinson, associate professor of biology, will offer the 2003 Academic Challenge. In their address, "A Time Like No Other," they will inspire students to use their education to help solve the world's social and ecological ills.

"The Real Deal on Drinking at UD": In a repeat of Sunday's session, four seniors will talk to incoming students about high-risk drinking, alcohol poisoning and other issues. It runs from **4 to 5 p.m.** in the Virginia W. Kettering Residence Hall. Contact: Scott Markland, coordinator of alcohol and drug abuse prevention, at (937) 229-2229.